

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

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SERMON OUTLINE

JESUS AS THE SOURCE OF PEACE

JOHN 14:15-31 | REV. PARKIN YOUNG

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. - John 14:27

After Jesus explained how His disciples are to do the work in verses 12-14, He reaffirms the truth that their love for Him is demonstrated through obedience. Jesus assures them that He will send a Helper from the Father to support them in their work. The Helper, though unseen by the world, will be known to the disciples as they carry out the ministry. Jesus assures them that they will not be left alone when He departs, and even though the world may not see Him, the disciples will know that Jesus is indeed one with the Father. In this section, Jesus promises the disciples the Helper who will be with them as they keep God's commands (vv.15-20).

Jesus once more told the disciples regarding their love and obedience to Him. This reiterates that their love of Jesus is seen when they keep His commands. He added that whoever loves Him is also loved by Him and the Father, and He would reveal Himself to him. Judas (not Iscariot) asked Jesus why He only revealed or manifested Himself to them and not the world. Jesus' reply reiterated what He had previously said about loving and obeying Him. This time, Jesus added that as one obeys, he, too, will be loved by the Father and that both Father and Son will abide or make their home in Him. The repetition of "loving and obeying" shows us the certainty of the truth that Jesus' name will be proclaimed as we keep obeying His commands (vv.21-24).

Jesus gives another encouragement to the disciples.

He promised them the Helper - the Holy Spirit. He spoke to them about how they will be taught and helped by the Spirit to remember all the things He has taught them. Jesus also pronounces peace and encourages them not to be troubled and afraid of what will come but to rejoice in the promise of peace. He also reassures them that Satan has no power over Him. Jesus does all these things because of God's commands so that everyone will know He loves the Father! Jesus gave His third promise - peace for His disciples so that they can carry on with the work after Jesus goes to the Father (vv.25-31).

May we all be encouraged to rely on Jesus's peace as we continue to do the great work we are all called to do! ✨

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

REV. REVIN VASALLO

In our passage today, Jesus continued to prepare His disciples by speaking about the Holy Spirit. It may not be the first mention of the Holy Spirit in the book of John, but it was the first time Jesus spoke about the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. And since the Holy Spirit is vital in the life of every believer, let me help you gain a deeper and proper understanding about His person and ministry.

The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Holy Trinity. Just like God the Father and God the Son, God the Spirit was also active in creation as He hovered over the waters even before the universe came into being (Gen 1:2). In the Old Testament, the Spirit is seen working in various events through selected individuals to accomplish God's purposes. The Spirit was with Joshua when he was about to succeed Moses (Num 27:18). The Spirit was in Bezalel to help in the construction of the Tabernacle (Exo 31:3). And the Spirit rushed upon Saul as He enabled him to prophesy (1 Sam 10:10).

In the New Testament, the Holy Spirit was at work in the life of Jesus Christ. Before His birth, Jesus was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit (Mat. 1:20). In the Baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit descended from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him (Jn 1:32). In the Resurrection of Jesus, it is the Holy Spirit who raised Him up from the dead (Rom 8:11). And in the Ascension of Jesus, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to the believers (Acts 1:8).

Now, the Holy Spirit is still continually at work in the world and in the life of believers. The moment a person puts his faith on the finished work of Christ, the Holy Spirit permanently dwells in him (1 Cor 3:16). The Holy Spirit seals the believer, secures his salvation, and lives in him forever (Eph 1:13-14). Likewise, the Holy Spirit is not present in the life of unbelievers (Rom 8:9). However, the Holy Spirit convicts people and causes them to know Jesus (Jn 16:8).

Lastly, the Holy Spirit enables

believers to live a Christian life progressively (Gal 5:18). He is our Helper as He brings to remembrance our knowledge about God and His Word. He is our Advocate when we sin (Jn 14:26). He gives wisdom, understanding, and revelation as we read the Scripture (Eph 1:17). He intercedes for God's people, helps believers to pray (Rom 8:26) and causes them to submit to God and obey His word (Eze 36:27). He empowers believers and equips them with spiritual gifts to serve God and His people (1 Cor 12:7). He strengthens believers and molds them to be more like Christ (2 Cor 3:18). And He makes known Jesus and glorifies Him through the believers (Acts 5:32).

Scripture still has a lot to say about the Holy Spirit, but I pray that these wonderful truths inspire us to know Him more and to have a deeper appreciation of His continuous ministry in the world and in the lives of believers. ✨

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